

entre nous

# Voices



samford university magazine fall issue 1995

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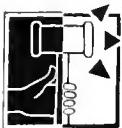
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## letters to the editor



Ville Crew spends their weekends helping the community.

I think the Entre Nous magazine [**Voices**] is great! I hope the students gradually think so, too. The magazine is timely and gives the student some "current" happenings. It's a fine idea — something for everyone!

Jim Head  
Honorary Trustee

Congratulations on an attractive and informational publication in the newly formatted Entre Nous. I enjoyed it thoroughly. I feel certain that our students, faculty and staff will feel likewise. Thank you for your help in making this possible.

Laverne A. Farmer  
Vice President of Business Affairs

You did a great job with the article in **Voices** regarding the Internship Program (Fall '94 issue). Many thanks for an excellent feature article, that not only surveyed this event in the academic year, but also provided helpful information to students. Already, several faculty and students have inquired about the program — and the first issue of **Voices** is only hours "off the press." Thanks for your coverage!

Carrie Anna Hild  
School of Business



Students check each other out at Sloss Furnaces every year.

Congratulations on producing a beautiful publication. As one who has produced and edited a full-color magazine for Baptist Health System in the past, I am very aware of the effort and the expertise required to have such a wonderful finished product. My daughter, a sophomore here, was editor of Vestavia High School's literary magazine for two years and her impression was that **Voices** was an outstanding publication.

Any criticism on the part of students at Samford merely reflects their lack of understanding about magazine production as well as their general fantasy about wanting a "yearbook." Keep up the good work!! We appreciate you.

Jane Wilkerson  
Former Career Coordinator

# editor's note



David Bacon

It may be an *Old West*, but it doesn't mean you'll be warm



Fredrik Sjöstrand

Culture abounds on campus, even an occasional opera

I hope all of you had a great holiday season! We here at **Voices** had the campus to ourselves after finals, as we put the finishing touches on this issue.

While reading over the feature story "Lights, Camera, Action" late one Saturday afternoon, my thoughts rested on a phrase Miss Dawson wrote about the Samford News Network (see p. 29).

"The pictures are the heart of the broadcast. But these students do the legwork," she said.

Pictures fill the heart of **Voices** as well, but students are the ones who make it happen. Students bring this magazine to life.

The majority of the writers never meet one another, but they create the stories. Seventeen people worked this fall to give **Voices** something to say.

Five photographers and two illustrators lent their skills to give **Voices** an image. Four more placed everything on the pages in the way you see it today, and countless others donated their time, favors and advice to help us bring **Voices** to you.

But students can put an end to us just as easily as they gave us a beginning. Without your continued support, ideas and feedback, **Voices** will die like the yearbook did.

We've heard how some people feel about our progress so far, and we're glad they took the time to write us.

But we need to hear from **YOU!** Send me a letter at SU Box 29-2888, or in care of Dean Franklin, and let me know what you like or what we could do better. Do you want more pages? More pictures? Would you like a part in making this happen?

You have a voice...for now. Please take advantage of it.

- Lisa Wells

## Look Out, Birmingham!

Samford added a new dimension to S.O.S.+ for entering students this year.

Forty-three groups made up of incoming students, S.O.S. leaders, and faculty members donated their time and abilities to 36 different Birmingham service agencies on August 29 as part of the new community service program included in the orientation program for freshmen and transfer students.

The goal of the new addition was to encourage student involvement in volunteer work, as well as to lend a helping hand to service organizations in the Birmingham area.

"Service-learning is very important in a student's — in everyone's — life. We wanted to introduce [the freshmen] to service opportunities very early," Associate Dean of Students Dr. Richard Traylor said.

S.O.S. Birmingham, as the program was called, came off as a great success for Samford and the community. Volunteer Service Coordinator Jennifer E. Boroughs said the organizations involved "are grateful for tasks that got

done. The students did jobs that the agency staff members didn't have time to do, such as cleaning yards and painting."

Approximately 550 to 600 freshmen and S.O.S. leaders participated in service projects, along with 28 faculty and staff members.

-Carrie Dawson



David Baker

## Tricks For Treats

Student Ministries sponsored a fall carnival on October 31 in Bashinsky Fieldhouse, and raised over \$700 to benefit its Summer Missions Program.

Campus organizations were asked to set up game booths for students, faculty and their families to enjoy.

Some of the carnival's activities included a cake walk, a pie throw, Polaroid pictures, an egg toss, a pinata game, turkey bowling, a raffle, and a dunking tank.

Carnival Organizer Audrey Stafford, a junior sociology major, said, "I think we had a good

A fish full of candy makes a Halloween dream come true.

turnout even with the bad weather. God took care of everything and worked it out."

The money raised will help defray the cost of plane tickets and orientation/training sessions for students involved in the Summer Missions Program.

-Leigh Marie Lunn

## SGA Elections: A Major(ity) Vote?

After a week of sidewalk chalk drawings and flyers covering Samford's campus, over 900 students turned out to vote in the SGA class officer and Senate elections.

"Although the number of students running for class office was

significantly higher than usual this year, the interest in Senate seats was lower," First Vice-President of Student Senate Lisa Good said.

Students also voiced their opinion on an amendment to the SGA Constitution that called for the SGA to include only undergraduate day students as members of the association. The amendment was passed

by an overwhelming majority.

Previously, the Constitution included graduate and night school students in its definition of SGA members. But less than two percent of these students participated in student government, according to SGA President Eric Motley.

-Sherri Spurling

## Speak Up, Samford!

The Samford Speakers Series (S3) continues to bring renowned guests to campus for the students' benefit and convo credit. This semester's programs offered two representatives of the global village in which we live.

Harry Wu, a human rights activist from China, shared his views before an awed crowd about his experiences within the world's largest communist nation. Many students were touched emotionally by Wu's shocking accounts of the Chinese prison system, and the events that led to his expulsion

from the country last year.

Russian Ambassador to the United States Yuli Vorontsov also visited the campus in early December. Through his speech in the Beeson Divinity Chapel, Vorontsov provided insight into Russia's role in Bosnia

S3 will include other leading members of today's society in the programs offered next spring, providing weary convo-goers with something to look forward to.

- Lisa Wells



Mary Ann Upham

Wu reaches out to students with his views on human rights.

## The Jewel in Samford's Crown

Alison McCreary, a junior human development/family studies major from Florence, Ala., was crowned Miss Samford 1996 after she defeated 10 other contestants for the title.

McCreary said of her win: "It's an honor to represent Samford University because the school has such a great reputation in the pageant system."

Four women also placed in the pageant: Julie Smith, a sophomore journalism major, 1st runner-up; Shelley Harmon, a junior special education major, 2nd runner-up; Leslie Vinzant, a sophomore vocal performance major, 3rd runner-up; and Christine Chilton, a junior nursing major, 4th runner-up.

This year marks the first time the swimsuit competition was held in front of the audience. Previously, contestants modeled swimsuits for only the judges in a closed setting.

Undoubtedly, McCreary will have a large following next summer when she represents Samford as she competes for the Miss Alabama title.

- Lisa Wells



Mary Ann Upham

Miss Samford 1996  
Alison McCreary

## Crossroads in Faith

Crossroads, the first ever tri-state Baptist conference, came to Samford this fall when over 2000 college students from Tennessee, Georgia, and Alabama showed up on campus for the weekend.

Esther Burroughs, Bill O'Brien, and Herb Brisbane were some of the speakers who led the 45 seminars offered through the conference.

The contemporary Christian musical group Phillips, Craig and Dean performed, as well as musical performers Kyle and Susan Matthews and the drama team of Tullos and Tullos.

Besides a weekend of fellowship and fun, students attending the conference also had the opportunity to work on a project with Habitat for Humanity, an organization that builds houses for people who cannot afford to buy their own.

- Holly Norman

## Londoners for a Semester

Samford students taking part in the London Study Program settled in for an exciting semester abroad this fall.

They are: Brandom Gengelbach, Tim Nabors, Lee Johnson, Matt Lion, Sherry Vaughn, Sharon Dean, Sarah Allen, Bill Robbins, Susan Kitchens, Thad Franklin, Amy Ridgeway, Kyle Jordan, Kendra Sawyer, Jennifer Jordan, and Allison Bucklew.

Dr. Dennis Jones served as the professor-in-residence at the London Study Centre this semester.

Besides taking classes on modern Britain, British theatre, international studies and art appreciation, students also made trips to the British



Karen K. Murphy

Wayward travelers find a home at the London Study Centre!

countryside, Paris and other sites on the European continent.

An additional educational experience offered to those studying abroad was the opportunity to intern with various organizations or companies in London. Several students found the internship-of-a-lifetime while working for the United Nations, the Spanish Embassy or Parliament — Great Britain's governing body

- Carrie Dawson

## Campus Ingenuity

The School of Business' entrepreneurship program ranks as one of the nation's 25 "Up and Coming Schools to Watch," according to **Success** magazine's 1995 listing of top business programs for entrepreneurs.

Associate Dean of the School of Business Dr. Andy Rucks

said, "The ranking honors the efforts of faculty members who have demonstrated the ability to nurture business leaders of the future."

**Success** cited Samford's Student Business Incubator in its September issue, saying the program "focuses on the accomplishments of entrepreneurs around the country and offers help for local businesspeople."

The magazine surveyed over 135 schools across the country to compile the listing. Criteria used to select the top 25 included faculty qualifications, academic standards and quality of resources.

Dr. William D. Clark is Acting Dean of the Samford School of Business and Dr. Marlene M. Reed teaches entrepreneurship.

- Lisa Wells

## Convos Now Provide a Service

Whether it's working with United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Birmingham or at Lakeshore Rehabilitation, students have discovered new ways to earn convocation credit.

In the fall semester a community service track was offered to students as a means of earning required convocation credits. This track was created as a result of a request made by the Student Government Association Senate.

About 70 students participated and completed the program and more are expected in future semesters.

Students can earn a minimum of 10 up to the required 64 convocation credits through community service.

Participants are required to attend a service orientation, work eight hours and attend a reflection session to earn the minimum 10 hours.

Volunteer Service Coordinator Jennifer Boroughs helped to initiate the program. Boroughs said, "The track provides an opportunity for community service

for which students may not have taken time."

Service to others demonstrates "the Christian faith in action," Minister to the University James Barnette said.

Numerous participants have commented that they were glad to do something spiritual rather than just listen to something spiritual, Boroughs said.

- Amanda Dunn

## Hanging of the Green

A hush falls across Reid Chapel as the first clear notes of "Silent Night" ring out into the winter evening. With this signal, the minds and hearts of Samford students begin to focus anew on the birth of the Messiah, Jesus Christ.

One of the most cherished traditions at Samford, Hanging of the Green attracts scores of Samford students and many Birmingham residents. It is a time of refreshment and reflection, a time to put away earthly cares, if only for an hour, and focus on the miracle of Christ's coming to earth.

Each year senior class honorees chosen by various campus organizations have the opportunity to participate in the service. This year, seniors Paula Byers, Jenni Cook, Robin Cook, Miriam French, Alison Kent, Leslie Neal, Kelly Snow, Sebastian Benson, Ed Briscoe, Scott Diehl, Chris Hill, Jason Loscuito, Eric Motley, and John Phillips continued the tradition of decorating Reid Chapel.

Faculty members and their families who participated in the ceremony were head basketball coach John Brady; Religion and Philosophy Department chair Dr. Bill Leonard

and his wife, Spanish professor Dr. Candyce Leonard; Art Department chair Dr. Lowell Vann; and volunteer service coordinator Jennifer Boroughs.

Soloist Renee Wade, the University Chorale and the Samford Faculty Brass Ensemble performed songs such as "O Holy Night," "Mary's Lullaby" and "Joy to the World" throughout the service.

Hanging of the Green concluded when the senior honorees led the audience into the winter night, carrying candles to spread the light of Christ.

- Kristie Willis



Students honor the birth of Christ at the Hanging of the Green.

Mary Ann Upshaw



## Football

Beginning the season with conservative expectations, the football team roared onto the field with a four-game winning streak as running back Derek Staley left the opposition behind. In his first four games, Staley ran for 135 yards per game.

Quarterback Bart Yancey, a third-year starter, boosted the team with 1661 passing yards. He also threw for 10 touchdowns and 140 completions.

Freshman James Griffith led the team in rushing with 718 yards gained. He also ran for 6 touchdowns, including a 99-yard kick-off return.

The team's top receiver, Mike Porter, clutched the ball 42 times for 5 touchdowns. He also returned a punt to score.

However, Mike Howell led the Bulldogs in scoring with 49 points. He kicked for 25-30 on extra points and 8-14 on field goals.

Linebacker Cory O'Neal consistently took down the opponent with 109 tackles this season, making 68 of them unassisted.

Moses Stone and Jabar Gammage concentrated on unlucky quarterbacks, as Stone made four sacks and Gammage landed four interceptions.

The Bulldogs ended their season by winning three of their last four games to post a record of 7-4. All four losses came at the hands of teams ranked in the top 25 of the nation.

- John Brock



Mary Ann Ippham

The Bulldogs kept one step ahead of the competition, and never looked back.

## Soccer Club



The Soccer Club led the league in kicking grass

They practice four days a week, pay for equipment and officials out of their own pocket, and aren't considered a varsity sport. They are the Samford University Soccer Club.

Despite receiving

no financial support from the athletic department, these 18 men successfully battled teams in the Southeast to achieve a 7-7-1 record. Under the guidance of head coach John Paul Lotz, the players

look for continued success in the seasons ahead.

"This is the best season we have ever had and next season will be even better," junior Adam Bishop said.

Bishop led the team with 10 goals, including two goals in a 4-2 win over the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga, and one goal in a 4-1 victory over Alabama.

In a Southeastern Collegiate Soccer League tournament at the close of the season, the Bulldogs finished a strong third.

- Matt Mitchell

## Cross Country

The men's and women's cross-country teams soared this season with the addition of new talent to their strong core of runners.

Junior All-TAAC performer Ashley Lawler united with freshmen Michelle Mullis and Sarah Fletcher to carry the women's cross country team through an impressive schedule.

Mullis snagged the top spot in her first collegiate race at the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga. The local star from Briarwood High School, who won 22 state championships while running there, ran the UTC course in 11:37. Lawler and Fletcher also placed in the top ten finishers.

However, the women's highlight came at the conference championship meet where Mullis finished second, just five seconds off the winning pace. Team members Lawler, Fletcher, Jennifer Lockamy, Charity Selph, Jessica Whatley, Jenny Wilson, and Allison Collier also ran strong races to help the team capture second place overall behind Central Florida.

The men's team also turned to fresh talent this season. Twins Andrew and Aaron Bishop placed in the top 10 slots of their first two races to get the team moving on the right track.

Robert Pautienus and Michael Reasons traded off the lead positions with the Bishop twins throughout the

The women started their season off on the right foot



season, and ran together to help the team place fifth at the conference championship.

Pautienus, Reasons and Aaron Bishop crossed the line 20th, 21st, and 22nd respectively. Andrew Bishop finished 27th, followed by Tim Shoup, Matt Hayes, John Phillips, Eric Peterson and Ryan Potter

- Mary Abigail Sessions

## Golf

The men's team finished fourth out of 12 teams at the Tri-State Classic held in Tennessee this fall. Junior Shannon Fetherman came out swinging for the Bulldogs and shot a 72 in the opening round.

However, sophomore Lawrence Key walked off the course as the team's highest finisher when he tied for 14th place out of 60 golfers. Freshmen Victor Kyatt and Matt Plothow both shot 150 to tie for the 18th spot.

Although Hurricane Opal's arrival forced the cancellation of the Samford Classic in Destin, Fla., the women's team enjoyed a top-10 finish in all three tournaments they played this season.

Junior Maria Nilsson of Lindas, Sweden, led the team by placing in the top 12 each time she competed. She placed fifth at the Lady Racer-Hilltopper tournament, seventh at the Ole Miss Lady Rebel Classic and tied for the twelfth spot at the Auburn Lady Tiger tournament.

Senior Kelsey Logan also shot well for the Lady Bulldogs, finishing 19th at Auburn and 17th at the Lady Racer.

- Mary Abigail Sessions

Spike it, Samford!

## Volleyball

The volleyball team, despite having three senior starters, endured a disappointing season and finished with a record of 7-32.

The Lady Bulldogs faced tough opposition in three early-September tournaments where they faced teams like Southern Mississippi, Furman, Texas-San Antonio and Mississippi State.

Senior Melissa Karwowski lead the team once again, ending the season with 378 kills, 267 digs and 48 blocks.

Setter Donna Moak, also a senior, grabbed her 4000th career assist in October at the Samford Invitational. The players and coaches signed the game ball and presented it to Moak. She ended the season with 843 assists.

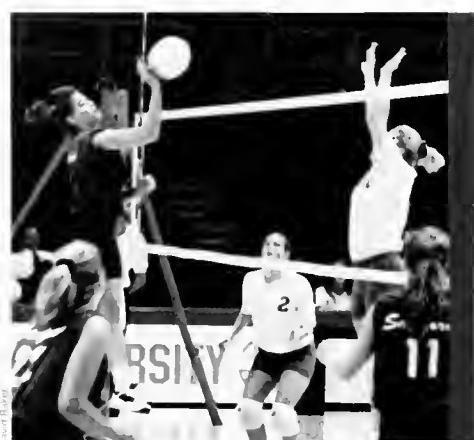
Senior Helen Pak of Tamuning, Guam, also played

big for Samford. Throughout the season, Pak had 35 aces and 296 kills.

Newcomer Mary Willett will provide a great asset for the team's future. Playing in 75 games, Willett nailed 56 kills and snagged 85 digs.

Sophomore setter Jennifer Hays also stood out with 97 kills for the season. Hays served up 37 aces too, leading the team in that category.

- Mary Abigail Sessions





## Spirit Committee

"We've got spirit, yeah - yeah, we've got spirit, yeah - yeah, we've got what?! Spirit at Samford University, are you kidding me?"

Like it or not, Samford wants its students to have a more enthusiastic, spirit-filled attitude toward the University's athletic teams,. The newly-formed Spirit Committee is playing an active role in this "spirit"ual transformation of the student body by trying to put the "spirit into the sport."

The Spirit Committee began last year as an off-shoot of the Student Activities Committee (SAC), but it did not really take shape until this year. The Student Government Association (SGA) sponsors the Spirit Committee as it seeks to increase student attendance and spirit at all Samford athletic events. Although the Spirit Committee falls under SAC's realm of organizations, it works hand-in-hand with the Samford Athletic department to inform students of upcoming home games and to entice them to come by offering incentives such as T-shirts and gift certificates.

Senior Amy Scotch, a public administration major and member of the tennis team, and junior Ashley Sellers, a management major, co-chair the Spirit Committee. Twelve students also volunteer their time to promote school spirit before and during home games. These volunteers create and distribute flyers about upcoming home games around campus, and make spirit posters and banners to display at games. The volunteers constantly dream up new and exciting ideas to promote student attendance at sporting events.

"Samford has a great athletics program and it needs to be known," co-chair Amy Scotch said. "Athletes give up so much of their time and energy. They deserve the respect and support of the student body."

Creative ideas define the Spirit Committee's existence. They created the infamous Bart Yancey fans which were handed out at a home football game for students to proudly display.

The committee also would like to sponsor half-times or breaks in games in order to offer students a chance to win prizes as a reward for attending.

"I think it's a shame that the University feels that it has to offer its student bribes in order to get

them to attend athletic home games," junior Deborah Brooks said. "Whether we win or lose, our teams and athletes represent our school and they deserve our support and encouragement."

To many students' surprise, Samford's athletic teams compete against big-name schools such as Florida State, University of Alabama, Auburn, Vanderbilt, and Clemson, only to name a few.

"Students may not realize that it is important to the athletes that the students get excited and attend the games. I think it would enhance our performance if students would come to our games and support our teams," remarked Chad Breedlove,



The Spirit Committee wants to bring the crowds home.

a sprinter on the track and field team.

Due to the Spirit Committee's hard work, we may see the emergence of a new pride at Samford University for our athletic programs.

Students may contribute suggestions or volunteer for the Spirit Committee by calling 2868 or visiting the SGA office.

- Mindy Oliphant

## Verbal Vision

Many college students struggle to find the time and place to continue their spiritual walk with God. For this reason, Samford offers opportunities for students to grow spiritually through various programs organized by Student Ministries.



Students speak out about their faith through Verbal Vision.

However, Samford students LeJon Poole and Cedrick Bridgeforth wanted to start their own avenue for spiritual growth when they started a program called "Verbal Vision."

Although the program developed as an offshoot of Student Ministries geared toward black students here at Samford, Verbal Vision holds regular meetings for all students to worship and praise God.

A speaker ministers to the group at each meeting. "The speakers are chosen with black students' needs in mind," Poole said. But the program's organizers encourage everyone to attend and reach out to other ethnic groups.

Sophomore Jodie Wheeler said of her experience, "I enjoy worshipping God in a group that is more representative of God's children."

Sheryl Tucker, a sophomore, agreed. "It made me think about my own spiritual walk, and the importance of a continual intimate relationship with God."

Verbal Vision also offers a morning prayer every Wednesday at 7 a.m. in Vail lobby.

For more information on Verbal Vision, call the Student Ministries office (2927) or Cedrick Bridgeforth (7384). All students interested in expanding their spiritual walk are invited to join.

- Rebecca Darlington



## Adopt-A-Grandparent

Grandparents touch many lives, having decades of life experiences and lots of love to share. Unfortunately, many college students no longer have their grandparents with them. On the other hand, many grandparents never have the chance to visit with their grandchildren. Both instances create a void in one's life. Adopt-A-Grandparent, a program offered by Student Ministries, exists to fill that void.

Program Director Holly Sparks said, "Adopt-A-Grandparent provides a way to truly influence a person's life by showing that someone cares about them."

Every Sunday afternoon, students meet at Pittman Circle to go to Hill Haven Nursing Home. For one hour, students visit with residents of the nursing home, providing a rewarding time for both the senior citizens and the students.

Freshman Martha Lambert said, "It gave me respect for an older generation and it helped me realize how much they need people and friends in their lives."

The program aims at the heart of the campus and the community because of the opportunity it holds for students to get involved with people who need companionship.

"It's a subtle way to show your love for people," Sparks added.

To participate in the Adopt-A-Grandparent program, call Holly Sparks (7566) or the Student Ministries office (2927).

- Rebecca Darlington



You can make a difference in someone's life.

Mary Ann Updike



## A Cappella Choir

When you hear 64 beautiful voices ringing out in harmony, it comes as no surprise to learn that Samford's A Cappella Choir ranks among the best. Under the direction of Dr. L. Gene Black and student director David DeVane, this fall the A Cappella Choir has performed in convocations, churches and the Divinity School chapel's dedication service.

The singers also performed for a Russian conference held in Birmingham. Combined with the various trips the choir has taken to Germany, performing for the Russians has helped the singing group to carry their name and tales of their talent around the world.

A Cappella's members have dedicated themselves to improving their voices and the choir's overall performance, spending hours practicing and strengthening their vocal skills.

The time they spend at practice encourages strong friendships to develop within the group — friendships which will last a lifetime. Senior journalism major Rebecca Day said, "We are a close group. We're like family."

Day has participated in the choir for three years and says she will remember the group as one of her best experiences at Samford.

Freshman church music major Jon Parks joined the choir after hearing it praised by several different people. He said of the group's leadership, "Dr. Black puts together a good choir."

He enjoys the choir because of its sense of "tradition." Though this year marks only his first with A Cappella, Parks said he has learned much from the experience.

Whether they're seniors or freshmen, members

agree the A Cappella Choir presents them with a great opportunity to use talents the Lord has given them while enjoying themselves at the same time.

- Jan Griggs



A Cappella sings out

David Baker

## The Real Inspector Hound



The Samford University Theatre Department stayed busy this fall by performing two plays and an opera. The season's opener presented a twist on the classic "Who Done It?" theme when the cast of *The Real Inspector Hound* attempted to solve a murder mystery.

Speech Communication and Theatre professor Jan Morris directed the play. She said due to the play's short length, it fit nicely into the fall schedule. She added, "I knew the [theatre] students were ready to do a piece like this British farce. Plus, I wanted to do it because it was fun."

*The Real Inspector Hound* turned heads, not all willingly.

Junior theatre major Brad Jones believed the show's small cast made up one of its good points. "The cast was able to act as a family," he said.

*Real Inspector Hound* also gave Jones an opportunity to build his acting skills. "I really enjoyed the mystery/comedy mix. The play challenged me because of the duel themes," he said.

The set allowed the audience to watch the play as if they were backstage. However, the actors had to adapt to this set, and perform for the imaginary audience in the background as well as the actual audience behind them. "It was hard not to turn my back on either audience," Jones remarked.

*The Real Inspector Hound* received rave reviews from theatre-goers, and its director as well.

"I've worked with most of the actors for almost four years, and I believe everybody on stage gave one of the best performances of their careers," Morris said.

- Jan Griggs

## Order of Omega

Samford's Greek organizations now have their own honor society - the Order of Omega. A national fraternity, the Order of Omega recognizes notable members of each campus fraternity and sorority for their campus involvement, encourages those students to continue their involvement, and inspires other students to do the same.

Members of Order of Omega must meet minimum grade point average requirements set by the national organization and must be involved in both Greek and non-Greek activities on campus. Each fall, the organization accepts new members, although only three percent of Samford's total Greek population may be initiated into the fraternity. Clearly, involvement with Order of Omega is an honor.

Yet, Order of Omega serves as more than an honorary fraternity. Its members also dedicate

themselves to the ideal of service. The Samford chapter has designated the Pioneer House, a home for elderly men and women, as their charity of choice. Each month Order of Omega members visit Pioneer House and fellowship with the residents.

According to Order of Omega president Wallis Williamson, the organization strives "to increase unity between individual campus organizations and the whole Samford community."

The fraternity also works to bring together faculty, alumni, and students involved with Greek organizations. Associate Dean of Students Richard Traylor, Assistant Director of Student Activities Suzanne Martin, and IFC Director Frank Parsons helped to establish the Iota Chi chapter of Order of Omega at Samford last year.

- Kristie Willis



## Nurses Christian Fellowship

The Samford chapter of Nurses' Christian Fellowship (NCF) is one of the most rapidly growing and active groups on campus this year.

"NCF is an international organization of nurses and nursing students who want to carry out their faith in Jesus Christ within their profession," NCF advisor Dr. Patricia Camp said.

NCF began on campus in the Fall of 1992 with 12 members. This year's 120 members make Samford's chapter the largest in the nation, according to the NCF national office in Madison, Wis.

"We say that we believe in the well-being of the whole person, including the spiritual and emotional sides as well as the physical side. NCF helps us to focus on the spiritual aspect of what we do," member and former president Amy Clark said.

The organization worked with Student Health Services in the fall to offer inexpensive and convenient flu shots to students and faculty, and will send a team of nurses to Venezuela during spring break to address the needs of the poor in very remote regions of the country.



NCF donated time and medical service to keep students healthy

"This kind of activity lets people know that Samford nurses are out in their community doing things to help and to serve," Camp said.

- Carrie Dawson



## Greek Week

As we look back on the first week in October, memories of the O.J. Simpson verdict and Hurricane Opal easily overshadow Greek Week. The week did not come off as a complete success, but many aspects of the week will go down in history.

Greek Week, meant to create unity among Greeks, accomplished its goal with Hurricane Opal's assistance. Fraternity and sorority members joined together in the basements of West Campus, hoping trees would not fall on their houses as they clutched their flashlights. Trading togas in for umbrellas, students quickly shifted their mindset from Greek Week activities to the storm's rain and wind.

Opal's arrival cancelled many Greek Week activities. Although the Greek Olympics were called

off, the Greeks kept with the Olympic spirit by swimming to classes and hurdling puddles the size of lakes on the quad.

And although the week's organizers never announced the exciting results of the Greek goddess competition, everyone on campus tuned in to their televisions to find out the verdict on the O.J. Simpson trial.

Monday night started off on a funny note when Christian comedian Kent Kington entertained a small crowd in the Food Court. As the week progressed, Greek spirit increased in intensity along with Hurricane Opal.

Greeks came to school on Wednesday sporting their letters under their raincoats. They soon realized classes had been cancelled throughout the state in anticipation of the hurricane's impact.

As the storm blew over, Greek Week resumed with two hugely-successful events: Greek convo and Price Carnival.

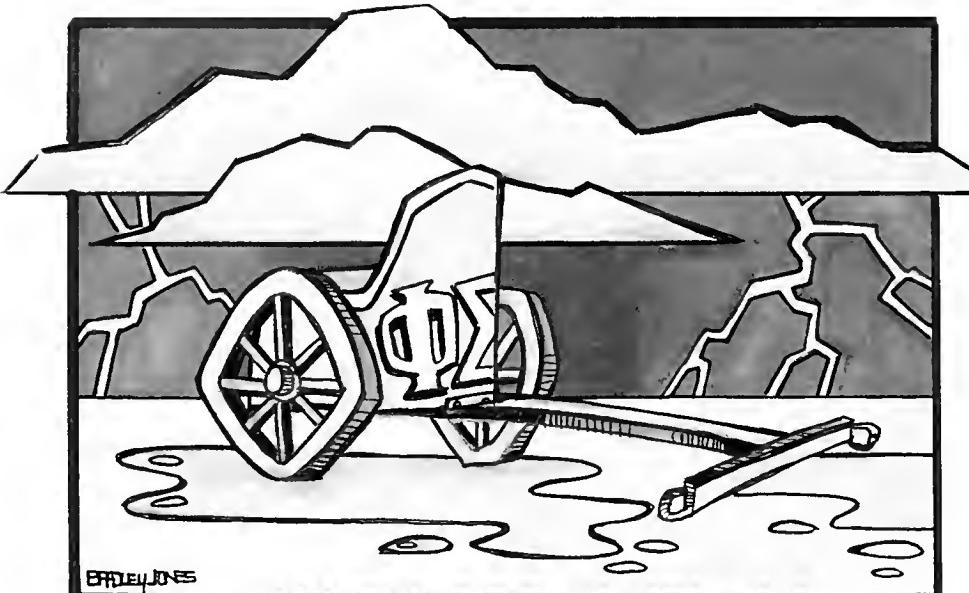
At Greek convo, the fraternities and sororities played a game which allowed the different groups to learn more about each other. The convo also featured testimonials about Greek life and provided an independent viewpoint.

All of the organizations' members came together on Friday afternoon at Price Elementary School, as Samford's Greek community threw a carnival for the schoolchildren. Kids on both elementary and collegiate levels went home with candy, stuffed animals, and newly-made friendships.

Greek Week has gone with the wind, but the effects of the week can still be felt at Samford and in the community.

- Bess Henninger

## Gone with the Wind



## Season Highlights

Punts and spikes highlighted the intramural scene as students played against each other in football and volleyball this fall.

The comraderie was warm and the competition fierce during the intramural football season -- with 4 more teams and 48 more games played than in the fall of 1994.

In the women's division, Quest I got down and dirty and came out on top over the second-place team, Alpha Delta Pi I, after the two teams struggled through the championship game in the rain.

Quest I member Jeannie Sullivan, a junior, said the victory meant a lot to the team. "Most of my team has been together since our freshman year. We've worked toward this ever since then," she said.

In League A of the Men's Division, Sigma Nu I beat out Sigma Chi I for the title in the final game of the semester.

The volleyball season served up an exciting set of matches -- all 108 of them! That total represents a 5-game increase from the previous season, according to intramural statistics.

"Time and facilities limit us, but we added a significant number of games to both sports in the fall because the students asked for them," Intramural Director Joelle Rule explained.

A women's volleyball team touting the name "The 'Stoners'" walked away with their division title, while Lambda Chi Alpha I triumphed over the men's league.

The good thing about intramurals, though, is that they don't center around winning.

"I enjoy the competition, but it's also a good way to exercise and relieve stress," freshman Jenni Drury, a veteran member of the team "Naughty-By-

Nature," said. "It was also a time set aside when my teammates and I could get together and see each other."

Rule would applaud Drury's attitude. "Most students have great attitudes, but you always have people who get upset in the heat of the competitive moment," Rule said.



When bragging rights are on the line, weekend warriors give it their all.

Mary Ann Updike

Yet, without the competitive aspect, intramurals just wouldn't be the same. Students won't have to crave the thrill of competition for long, however.

The softball and basketball seasons are just around the corner, and a weekend soccer tournament also awaits eager students later this spring.

Let the games begin!

- Carrie Dawson





Mary Ann Upham

Our hometown quarterback led the team against the Lumberjacks.

Traditions represent society's rituals that remind us where we are and what we are about. For this reason, Samford places much importance on them. And for students, alumni, parents and friends, Homecoming stands out as one of the school's finest examples of tradition.

Every fall, as regular as clock-work, Samford celebrates Homecoming with a week's worth of entertaining, stress-combating events, culminating with the football game on Saturday. This year's celebration followed the usual format, but with a unique twist.

The SGA committee took the pre-

scribed formula, mixed in a great theme and some first-rate entertainers, stirred it all up, and the end result was Homecoming Week 1995. Theirs was a recipe for success. "The Art of Celebration" became this year's theme, and true to the slogan, students experienced many forms of art throughout the week of October 16-22.

The event that kicked off the week involved the art of public speaking. Two football players, senior Jay Woods and sophomore Dave Puncochar, spoke in Monday

"The Art of  
Celebration"

# HOMECOMING

BY HOLLY NORMAN AND CARRIE DAWSON

morning's convocation. They gave testimonies about ways God has helped them in their lives, both on and off the playing field.

Monday evening, illusionist David Garrard displayed his talent as a magician. Garrard performed magic tricks to music, and involved audience members in the show as assistants. "It was a fascinating experience," said sophomore Jonathan Tubbs. "He destroyed the doubts I



Mary Ann Upham

The band struck up a tune, and sang a few songs of their own in the stands.



Cary Long kept students from thinking of upcoming classes and tests.

had about magic in the past."

Students made the trek downtown to the Alabama Theater to watch James Dean in "Rebel Without a Cause" on Tuesday night.

Junior Meg McGlamery said of the legendary actor, "I think James Dean's persona accompanied the week's theme very well."

On Wednesday night, Denny Dent exhibited his talent by painting for Samford students. Dent created portraits of famed musicians like John Lennon, Billy Joel, Elton John and Jimi Hendrix while their music played in the background.

Dent referred to his energetic painting style as the "Two Fisted Art Attack" because he appeared to throw paint on the canvas in an unorganized, random way. He told students, "It's not what you do, it's the way you do it that makes it art."

Junior nursing major Candi Carter loved Dent's performance. "He painted one portrait upside down, and nobody knew who it was supposed to be until the end. Then he turned it over, and voila there was Jimi Hendrix," Carter said.

Cary Long presented the art of comedy on Thursday night when he

performed in the Food Court. He helped students laugh off the pressures of school and classes as he joked about the everyday things in life.

Samford Palace, a talent show featuring students and alumni, offered the first of Friday night's events. Students, faculty and alumni performed their talents in the Wright Center for a packed house. After the talent show, Samford cheerleaders stirred the crowd into a spirited frenzy as they led everyone in a pep rally preparing for Saturday's game.

Friday's final event to cause campus mayhem was the float-building competition.

Organizations across campus gathered on the

quad to participate in a tradition that allowed them to express their creative and artistic abilities more than any preceding event. The groups built floats to show their support for the upcoming football game and to compete with one another for the title of float-building champion.

By the end of the evening, 15 displays constructed out of nothing more than wood, chicken wire and tissue paper sat regally in the quad for all to see on Saturday.

Phi Mu won first place with their



Denny Dent taught us the true meaning of art -- it's all in the way you do it

almost life-size representation of art around the world, followed by the Pharmacy School's musical portrayal of the opposing football team's impending death on the field, and the Warhol-influenced display of the

"Faces of Beeson" by Alpha Phi Omega.

Festive sounds filled the air early Saturday morning, as alumni and students strolled through the Quad admiring

the displays and taking part in the Alumni Carnival events.

At the barbecue lunch accompanying the carnival, Samford graduates sampled a variety of great Southern cookin', mingled with one another, patronized the booths with carnival games and prizes, and listened to jazzy tunes courtesy of The Birmingham Banjo Band.

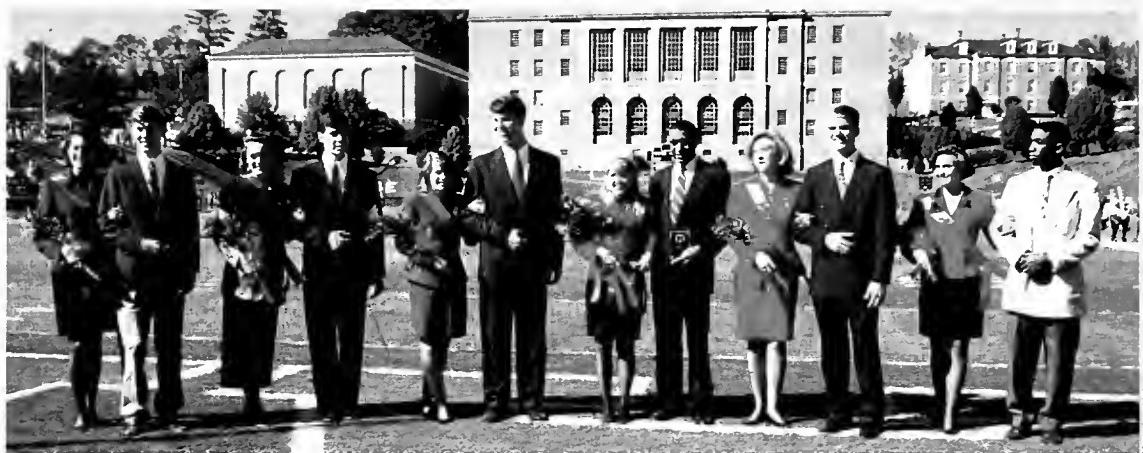
Director of Alumni Affairs Monty Hogewood expected over 2,000



effort, the SFA Lumberjacks were victorious by a score of 31-10.

"We came out and fought with the student body behind us," Football Strength Coach Ken Jones said.

At halftime, the 1995



1995 Homecoming Queen Jenni Cook, escorted by Eric Motley, presides over her court.

alumni to attend Homecoming throughout the week, with the majority present at the barbecue lunch and the football game.

"We were open to anyone, and we expected a large crowd," Hogewood said.

With much anticipation, the Bulldogs took on Stephen F. Austin in Seibert Stadium on Saturday afternoon. Though the Samford football team put forth a valiant

Homecoming Court was presented, and 1994 Queen Julianne Anderson crowned Jenni Cook as the 1995 Homecoming Queen. Senior Eric Motley had the honor of escorting Cook and also received a plaque.

To top off the day's festivities, students dressed up and attended the Homecoming Ball Saturday night. Evening wear glittered and conversation sparkled as students danced the night away at the

## BEESON DIVINITY CHAPEL DEDICATION SISTINE OR SAMFORD?

Harbert Center in downtown Birmingham

Despite the late night, some rose early Sunday morning to attend the dedication of the new Divinity School Chapel. The week's events came to an end with a worship service led by Dr. Sigurd Bryan. A time of remembrance also was



Teammates celebrate a play on the field



offered for those alumni who have passed away within the last year.

Homecoming Week 1995 overflowed with artistic expression and talent. From painting to football, many diverse art forms presented themselves to students.

The Homecoming tradition has passed on for another year, but hopefully students came away this time with more than a renewed sense of school spirit. Perhaps now they have a greater understanding of the institution that is Samford University, and the beauty conveyed through the celebration of the arts.

When the Beeson Divinity Chapel Dedication took place on October 22 as a signal to the close of the week's Homecoming activities, many people expected the Homecoming theme, The Art of Celebration, to fade away quietly.



David Baker

However, the chapel's sheer splendor erased all events that had preceded it and vividly brought to mind why we should celebrate the joys of art.

Whether it was through the murals created by artist Petru Botezatu, the eloquent deliverance of Dr. Sigurd Bryan's sermon, or the sweet sounds of Samford's A Cappella choir ringing out on that Sunday morning, the Beeson Divinity Chapel has captured the very essence of art — its beauty in all forms.

And now, the chapel remains open for all to share in its reverent atmosphere and loveliness, none of which would have been possible were it not for the contributions of one man — Jesus Christ.

- Lisa Wells



Photographic Services

Butkus may be a famous personality . . .

**E**veryone looks back on Homecoming with special events or people in mind. But sometimes the little people get overlooked, in spite of the role they play in our school's spirit. This year, *VOICES* caught up with the Pride of Samford, Butkus the Bulldog, to get his opinion on life as a silent star. What follows are his words, his thoughts, his views, and a fine display of creative license. Basically, it's . . .

neighborhood.

Unfortunately, by the time I felt like slowing down, I had run so far that I wasn't sure exactly how to get back home. And I certainly didn't realize I had run for two days (a true Gump experience). So I asked a carload of gentlemen for a ride, explaining to them that I didn't know my address off-hand, but I did work for Samford University. They dropped me off at the campus, end of story.

I made it back to school just in time for Homecoming, and all the hoopla that goes along with 2000 people dropping in for the weekend. What with the crowd and the scent of Bar-B-Q wafting over from the Quad, I could barely keep my mind on the game. Imagine all the smoked

meat I missed out on that day!

Speaking of bones to chew, allow me to say a little something about school spirit. Homecoming provided the strongest showing of pride in our school and our team that I saw all year. But Homecoming always tops off the season in terms of school spirit and game attendance.

If all those people are out there, why do they wait until they have an excuse to show up? C'mon, Samford! Where's the Bulldog in you?

Why don't you let him off that leash every once in a while and hang out with the BIG DAWG on campus — Me! See you next season!

## BUTKUS UNLEASHED!!

Yeah, I know what you're saying Samford's mascot leads a dog's life.

Besides representing our school at every home football game, I'm lavished with attention from fans, the media and most importantly, cheerleaders. Why I bet every guy wishes their name was Butkus!

Well, I'm here to tell you, sometimes life is just another tick in my rump. Take the incident this fall for example, when I made an unplanned getaway

Someone had the nerve to say a group of boys kidnapped me from my backyard. Nonsense! When I saw those hooligans snooping around my fence, I hopped over it and chased them clear out of the



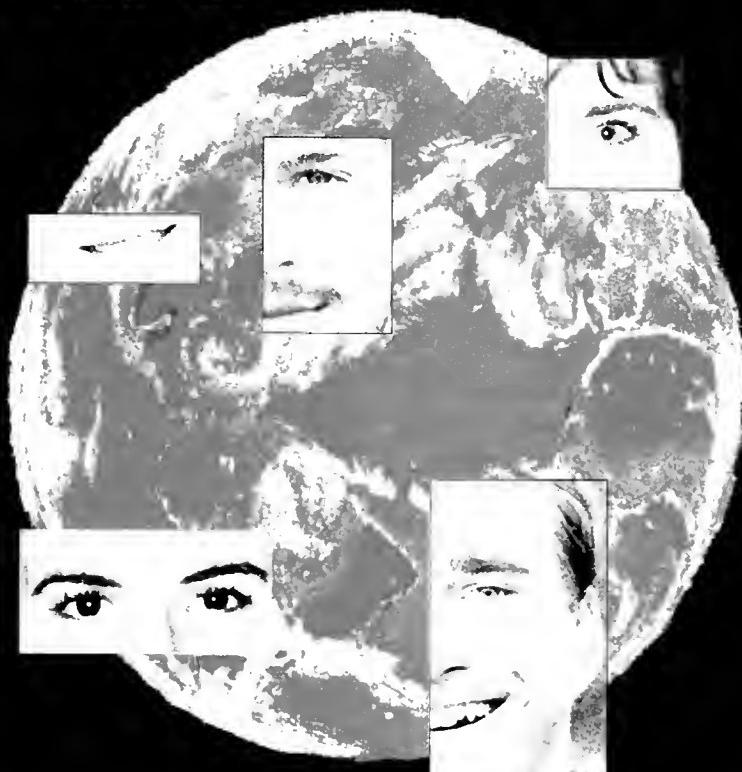
Mary Ann Upham

but he takes it all in stride! It's just part of this dog's life.

ILLUSTRATION: MIKE ROBINSON  
PHOTOS: DAVID BAKER

## BEYOND SAMFORD

I was an



# MK CENTERFOLD

Imagine living your entire life in the United States and then, at 18 years of age, moving to another country to go to college. If you're a missionary kid, fondly referred to as an "MK" on our campus, this tale doesn't sound so far-fetched.

Undeniably, living overseas as a missionary's child would broaden a person's

world view. It presents an opportunity to learn another language, understand the particular nuances of a society, and a chance to see the world.

But changing cultures and countries overnight in pursuit of an education could pose as a difficult task for anyone. The downside of an MK's life is adjusting and readjusting to a variety of cultures, and identifying one as your own.

Over 40 missionary kids from around the world currently attend Samford. *Voices* interviewed five of them to gain their opinions on life beyond Samford, and just as important, life as it happens within our golden gates.

BY: LYNN MCCOY



**Kara Chism**, a senior double-majoring in education and Spanish, grew up in Ecuador. She believes, "Ecuadorians are the friendliest, sweetest people I've ever met."

Chism attended a K-12 school run by the Christian Missionary Alliance (CMA). However, none of the local children graduated with her senior class of 35 students.

"Ecuadorians were not allowed to attend my school because of their admiration for Americans. The government was afraid the people would prefer the CMA school because it was American, and refuse to attend the country's public schools," Chism said.

When she first came to Samford, Chism had a hard time adjusting because the people weren't as approachable as her Ecuadorian friends. Over time, though, her circumstances became brighter. She commented on the "great education" she has received at Samford and the close friendships she has

made while here.

After graduation, Chism plans to pursue a teaching career. "I would really like to teach Spanish to elementary kids," she added.

However, Chism hopes to return to South America in a few years.

She summed up her life as an MK by saying it's "an honor God chose my family to be foreign missionaries. I've had experiences I never would have had anywhere else!"

**Blake Chism**, Kara's younger brother, is a freshman double-majoring in Spanish and English. Raised in Florida, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Spain, he spent the majority of his life as an MK in Ecuador but considers himself a dual citizen of the United States and Spain.

Attending an MK school in Madrid, Chism found himself in the company of 86 students from around the world. Some traveled almost two hours each morning to go to school, so Chism considers it fortunate that his commute lasted only 30 minutes every morning.

When asked what it was like to grow up as an American overseas, he replied, "In certain places, you're looked at as a god because you're American. I feel like I'm more patriotic because I lived in another country

"The knowledgeable freshman does not seem greatly affected by his transition to American culture. He says he learned about life in the States by "spending two weeks listening to the radio, watching TV and eavesdropping on people's con-



versations" when he arrived.

Chism admits the change in his life hasn't gone well in every regard. "Being at Samford has taught me a lot of responsibility and how to live on my own," he said. "It's also taught me discipline because I don't have my family to rely on."

Senior biology major **Allan Phipps** celebrated his 12th birthday in Japan, when his parents moved there to work as missionaries. Phipps lived in Nagoya, a town located between Tokyo and Kobe on Japan's Pacific coast. But he returned to the U.S. each summer to stay with his grandparents.

While Phipps admits his background has made him very open toward people of other races and cultures, he feels he had a hard time re-adjusting to the United States when he moved here for college.

"I was not in tune with college students as far as fads go, and dating was totally different overseas," Phipps said. But he added, "MKs



are ordinary kids. They just grew up somewhere else."

Attending an international school in Nagoya with classes taught in English and based on the American school system, Phipps watched the majority of his Japanese classmates compete with each other to get into an American college. For in Japan, Phipps says "the job you receive is based solely on what university you attend."

He describes the Japanese as "reserved but very friendly, helpful and always inquisitive."

When asked how Samford has impacted his life,

Allan responded, "You can sit through your time at Samford and not get much out of it. But Samford offers the experience to attain your goal if you want it." Phipps has made use of the opportunities he has found here by concentrating his efforts in the field of science.

However, Phipps desires to return home to teach English classes in Japan, and hopes he'll have the opportunity one day to enlarge someone else's view of the world.

**Lori Adams**, a senior Spanish major with a sociology minor, hails from Venezuela. While living in South America, she attended an international college prep school with students from over 60 countries.

Despite the school's ethnic diversity, Adams said she was one of three Christians among 250 students. "God allowed me to remain strong and become a witness for Him," she said of her class setting.

Adams faced problems besides those of a religious nature. Many Venezuelans thought she was snob-

bish and materialistic due to a common American stereotype widely-believed around the world

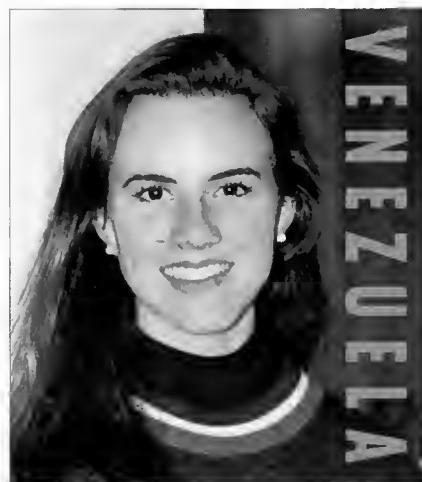
She feels the Lord led her to Samford "to share my experiences with others." Through the time she has spent here, Adams has realized she wants follow her parents' example and become a missionary too.

Senior human development/family studies major **Michael Crane** has lived almost everywhere in East Asia. He spent the first three years of his life in Taiwan. Since then, his family has lived in Singapore, Malasia and the Philippines.

In Malasia, an Islamic country, Crane's parents received the last 10-year Visa for missionaries that the nation's government would issue.

When asked about the advantages that accompany life as an MK, Crane spoke of learning new cultures, having new experiences and less prejudice and always enjoying himself. The disadvantages, though, arose when he constantly moved from place to place. He didn't have a room he could rearrange or a yard to build a tree house.

He often felt he had to say goodbye to people he had just met. And because of the great distance that separated his family from his relatives, he didn't get to



see them often or learn much about American culture.

Attending an MK high school in Manila, a city of 13 million people in the Philippines, Crane described his school of 300 students as similar to ones in the states.

"It was like an American high school, except with fewer problems like drugs, sex and alcohol. Peer pressure did not exist," he said

Crane's biggest culture shock happened in the eighth grade when his family moved from Malasia to a rural town in North Carolina while



they were on furlough.

"I had a real problem with the rural part. It was as if we moved there from Atlanta or New York City," he related.

After graduating in May, Crane plans to stay in Birmingham to work for a few years. Then he hopes to attend seminary school to prepare for his own career as a foreign missionary.

# matter of class

By: MELANIE GOODEN



Mary Ann Updorn

A Horizons class, like this one taught Dr. Clemmensen, helps freshmen cross over from high school to college life.

With the welcome of the freshman class every year, Samford touts the qualities each group of incoming students possesses. Some who have witnessed classes come and go over time remain unconvinced of any significant difference between the freshmen of yesterday and the seniors of tomorrow. The University insists that at least one thing has changed over the years though. It's all a matter of class

"Samford attracts leaders, and this year was no exception," Director of Admissions Phil Kimrey said. The freshman class of 1995 brings 652 students from 25 states and five foreign countries. The students, selected from 1,708 applicants, have proven themselves as one of the strongest academically-prepared classes to enter the University.

"The students that make-up this freshman class are very well-rounded. They not only exceed in academic excellence but also in leadership ability," Admission and Financial Aid Counselor Anne Pratt said. "Samford is a perfect match for the majority of these students because of the large variety of leadership positions available here."

Many freshmen receive merit-based scholarships. Through this scholarship program, Samford seeks to attract the academically-talented and highly-motivated student leaders for which the University has become known.

LAYOUT: AMY GILES

The school considers a student's high school grade point average, national standardized examination scores, recommendations, admission essay, leadership activities and extra-curricular involvement before awarding a merit-based scholarship. The scholarships fall into three categories: Presidential Academic, and Leadership.

Individuals who demonstrate high academic performance, outstanding college entrance test scores, high leadership and community involvement may receive a Presidential Scholarship. This year's Presidential Scholarship recipients include 17 National Merit finalists.

Nathan Lott, a Journalism/Mass Communications major from Tyrone, Georgia, stands as one of the National Merit finalists in the 1995 freshman class. Lott believes it is important to be involved on campus, especially in

clubs associated with your major.

"Right now I'm involved in WFSU, the radio station here on campus, but I also see a full range of leadership opportunities to become involved in," Lott said. "I believe your fraternity or sorority is another opportunity for great leadership possibilities."

Besides clubs like WFSU, many freshmen hold a variety of leadership positions and honors during their senior year in high school.

Samford selected one such freshman, Kimberly Watson, as a Presidential Scholar. The math and voice major from Birmingham served as the president of the Minor Citizen Club, a member of the National Honor Society, president of the Latin Honor Society, and ranked first in her class in high school.

"I loved getting involved in high school, and I hope to be able

to do the same here at Samford.

This semester I've tried to concentrate on my studies, but I look forward to helping with SGA and my new sorority," Watson said.

When asked why Samford attracts leaders, Watson replied, "I believe Samford is selective, so it makes getting into the university more of a challenge. The people who do decide to apply and then to attend Samford know a lot will be expected of them."

In fact, the student body's level of involvement overwhelms many students new to Samford. Many of the freshmen were everything in high school, but as a freshman in college they have to start all over again. "Cathy Ringo, an admissions and financial aid counselor, said,

Kelly Munson can relate her hand to Ringo's opinion. The one pharmacy major from Tuscaloosa, Alabama, said she left the God and truly abhorred her that you must

walk side by side with other leaders to build a strong record through the student body's example.



Nathan Lott

David Baker



Kimberly Watson

David Baker

Morrison, also a Presidential Scholar, joined the Student Government Association as a member of the Homecoming Committee. She serves as the president of her sorority's pledge class, and dedicates time toward campus ministries.

"I am afraid once I begin Pharmacy school as a junior I won't be able to stay active in campus activities. So I want to do as much as I can before then," Morrison said.

Carrie Osborne, a freshman from Smiths Station, Alabama, also received a Presidential Scholarship. As the salutatorian of her senior class, the president of her high school literary club, a member of the National Honor Society, and the editor of the yearbook, she entered Samford as a Journalism/Mass Communications major.

Osborne would like to get involved in many different aspects of the campus, but said, "It's so hard your first semester of college to really get involved because you are trying so hard to concentrate on your grades, but I am definitely excited about the leadership opportunities on campus."

Samford encourages students to be leaders on and off campus. Freshman Missy Gilliam presents the new type of leadership Samford

# "Samford attracts leaders, and this year was no exception."

students provide for the community. She volunteered for Camp New Song, a bereavement camp for children who have recently lost their parents.

When asked why she chooses to participate in volunteer opportunities, Gilliam said, "It keeps you

Samford cultivates strong, successful leaders in hopes of sending them out into the world to make a difference.

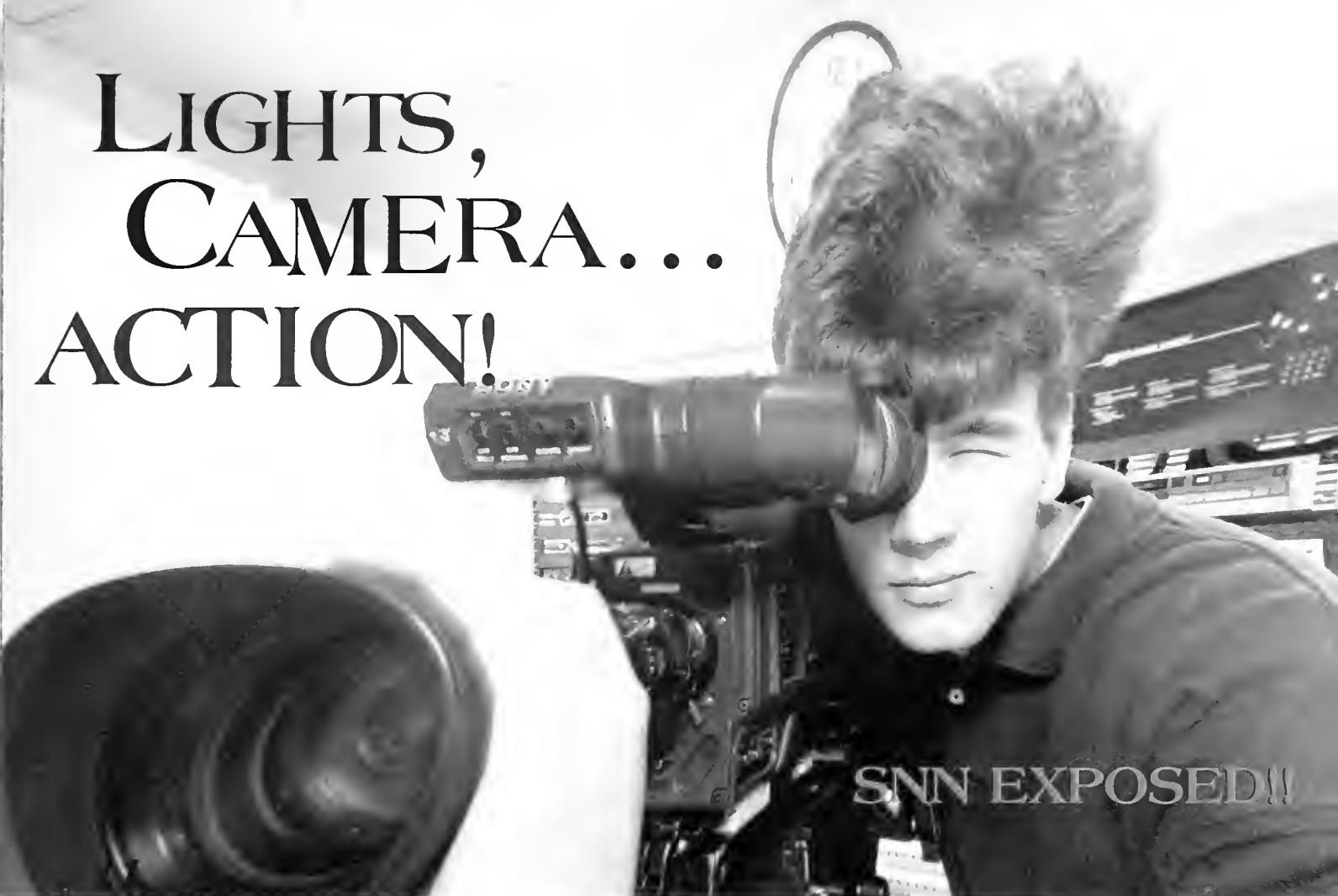
If this year's freshman class and its activities provides any representation of the quality of education to be found at Samford, then the University already has pointed us in the right direction for a future of leadership and success.



Kelly Morrison

humble and in touch with reality. I feel like volunteer work is an extended arm of God, reaching out to help those in need."

# LIGHTS, CAMERA... ACTION!



**SNN EXPOSED!!**

**A**m I ever going to use this in the real world?"

You'll hear this question thrown around in classes and dorm rooms all over Samford — and in universities nationwide — by frustrated students who don't see how what they learn in class relates to their lives after college.

But you won't hear those words down at the Stockham building where broadcast journalism students produce the Samford News Network (SNN) every week, although those may be the *only* words you don't hear!

The SNN crew members often face frustration, like every college student, but not about whether they have enough practical experience. When they sound troubled, it's

because the videotape's out of focus or they didn't get the sound bite they wanted, or they can't come up with the perfect tease to lead into a story

And if all of this sounds like Greek to you, don't be alarmed. It's just standard broadcast jargon, the language of the trade — the trade that these fortunate students can practice while still in school.

SNN's weekly performance results from a class that journalism students must take for three semesters to complete. But broadcast majors who enroll in SNN don't use a textbook, worry about quizzes or tests, or even write papers.

All their professor, Dr. Jon Clemmensen of the Journalism/Mass Communications Department, demands of them is a complete and

professional television news broadcast program every week. According to the SNN "staff," that's more than enough.

## DAY ONE AND COUNTING...

Technically, the class meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:20 a.m. But, as any class member will tell you, those four hours a week don't even scratch the surface of the enormous amounts of time and energy that go into producing the show.

One week prior to the airing of each program, crew members toss around story and segment ideas, decide which to run and assign people to cover them. "We sit around and talk about ideas together," senior Ryan Morgan said.

# "WE LIVE ON THE EDGE."

Throughout the week until Wednesday night, the students spread out around campus to shoot events, tape interviews, obtain footage, and write the copy for the stories that will run on the show.

"The thing about TV is you have to write to your pictures. If you don't have pictures to support what you're saying, you're up a creek," senior Sean Fennelly said.

Needless to say, the crew of SNN takes plenty of "pictures." Whether it's senior Kara Murphy and Morgan filming an interview with Dr. William Collins, a political science professor, for his views on the effect Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's assassination will have on Israel; or Craig Falanga, also a senior, talking live on the set with Dr. Bill Leonard, a religion professor, about the Alabama Baptist Convention's feelings toward Samford — the pictures are the heart of the broadcast.

But these students do the leg-work. They have to go out and get the stories.

## MISSION IMPOSSIBLE

The SNN crew usually stays up late on Wednesday nights editing film footage, writing copy and lead-ins for stories, and taping voice-overs down at the Stockham building.

With WVSU tunes blaring in the background, the "SNNers" scurry around trying to finish their packages. The process becomes highly technical at this point, as the editing equipment resembles mission control at NASA, and sometimes it can be downright discouraging.

"The whole thing [producing the

show] is a frustrating ordeal. The equipment we work with is really old. I mean, we're glad to have what we do and to be able to use it, but you never know when it's going to eat your tape," Morgan said. "We live on the edge."

But is the show worth the stress? "It's hands-on experience. We actually learn and do things we'll be doing after we graduate," Morgan explained. All the experience he's gained



When Sean Fennelly calls the shots, chaos runs rampant on the set



through SNN helped Morgan land an internship at Channel 6 here in Birmingham. "I'm learning even more there to apply to this class," he added.

#### DO IT NOW OR NEVER

On Thursday morning, the class must put all the individual assignments together and tape the show. The students coordinate every aspect of production and finish within an hour and twenty minutes. Only one word can describe their environment accurately — chaos.

"We all have to learn how to do every aspect of the production process: reporter, producer, cameraman, sound, etc., and we only stay in each position for a few weeks. So if we have just switched jobs, like we had this week, then Thursday morning runs even more out of control," senior John Phillips commented.

The Stockham building makes a complete turn-around on Thursday morning from Wednesday night to look very professional-esque. Everybody with a head wears headphones to

make sure they hear each of Falanga's colorful metaphors as he directs the lively crew.

So many cords, wires, buttons and switches fill the building that even "Uncle Ed" (Ed Landers, Samford's media coordinator who really runs the show down at Stockham — no pun intended) couldn't know all of their primary functions. On second thought, Ed knows everything.

The anchors tape their parts around the story packages, and add any on-the-set interviews to the plethora of information on the master tape. When it's all said and done, nobody can wait to get out of there.

When they see the finished product, however, the SNN crew realizes the value of their hard work.

"Right in the middle of production, I always say I hate the class, the process, and anything else that has to do with SNN. But when you see your work pay off and realize all the experience you're getting well, it's a good feeling," Murphy said.

You can catch SNN every Thursday at the top o' the hour on Channel 37.

#### SNN DEFINED: WORDS THEY LIVE BY

**Anchor:** The person sitting behind the desk when the show comes on; the host with the most.

**Sound Bite:** Let's say a tornado rips through a trailer park. You're hearing a sound bite when you watch the guy on TV screaming about his cat being blown away.

**Tease:** What the anchor says to keep viewers interested in what's next on the program.

**Copy:** The meat (words) of a story.

**Lead-In:** The anchor introducing the story.

**Voice-Over:** A reporter narrating what the viewer is watching on TV.

**Talent:** Same as anchor, sometimes just another pretty face.

**Chaos:** What you enter when you walk through Stockham's doors; also Morgan's middle name.

Mission Control at SNN





find  
your  
own  
voice

## Volume 2 Number 1

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